Protective meàsures by U.S. against Indian Steel

706. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Companies in the United States have demanded action by the U.S. administration against India for not fulfilling her commitment in checking the surging stainless steel exports in the American Market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government has advised the steel companies to go slow on its export to the U.S.A.;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the U.S. administration has taken any protective measures like hike in import duty and Tariff rate quota; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Embassy of India, Washington intimated in April 2003 that there has been a news article that US producers have complained about the surge in India's export of stainless steel products to the USA and have demanded that Indian stainless steel long products should be brought under the safeguard measures. The US side also raised this issue during the recent visit of the Union Commerce & Industry Minister to U.S.A.

(c) & (d) The concerns of the US have been brought to the notice of the inudstry for appropriate action.

(e) & (f) Till date, the US administration has not invoked safeguard measures against import of stainless steel items from India on the basis of recent complaints from its domestic industry. However, protective measures taken earlier by the US administration continue.